



# State of South Carolina

## Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD  
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 12267  
COLUMBIA 29211

June 7, 2005

The Honorable David Wilkins  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Post Office Box 11867  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Mr. Speaker and Members of the House:

I am hereby vetoing and returning without my approval H. 3906, R-195.

While the legislation is well-intended, I am concerned about the ramifications of the legislation over the long-term for lottery scholarships in South Carolina.

The effect of several sections within this bill is either to expand the pool of students eligible for the LIFE or Palmetto Fellows Scholarships, or to relax the standards to be met by students in order to retain these scholarships. The Commission on Higher Education has estimated the net effect of this bill is a \$1.17 million increase in the annual financial demand of the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship.

The elements of this bill concerning the eligibility and retention of the LIFE Scholarship will produce a higher number of qualifiers as well.

The projected Education Lottery Account appropriation for FY 2005-2006 is \$289 million, a decrease of more than \$50 million from the current fiscal year. This erosion of lottery proceeds can only worsen if a lottery comes on line in North Carolina. Ultimately, we may need to reevaluate how we distribute lottery scholarships to meet the limited resources available. Until that time, I would caution about expanding the current programs until we can determine a predictable and stable revenue flow.

For the reasons stated above, I am vetoing H. 3906, and returning it without my approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

Mark Sanford